

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#12/B
8/6/02
T.M.

In re U.S. Patent Application of

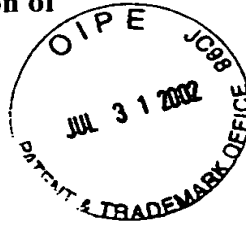
ESAKI et al.

Serial Number 09/629,820

Filed July 31, 2000

For: RECLINING MECHANISM
FOR VEHICLE SEAT

Attorney Docket No. HASE.0046



Art Unit 3636

Examiner Milton Nelson, Jr.

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

This supplemental response/amendment is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121), mailed July 26, 2002, to which a response is due on August 26, 2002. This response supplements a response filed July 12, 2002, to the Office Action mailed on January 15, 2002.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the ABSTRACT in its entirety and replace with the following:

B' A reclining mechanism for a vehicle seat includes first and second attachment members coupled with each other at their outer peripheries and connected by a hinge pin, a slide pawl slidably mounted within one of the attachment members, and a cam element mounted on the hinge pin in a space between the attachment members. The cam element is engaged with the slide pawl to maintain engagement with the ratchet portion of the attachment member when the hinge pin is retained in a torsion spring load position. This construction permits relative rotation of the